

SLAVERY.

RESOLUTION

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

RELATIVE TO

*The territory acquired by the Mexican war and the introduction of
slavery therein.*

JANUARY 22, 1849.

Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened, That we regard the extension of a pure republican government over a vast expanse of territory as one of the happiest results of the late war with Mexico; and that we desire that the lustre of its glorious events may never be tarnished by the introduction of slavery, or any form of oppression, into the broad regions it has added to our national domain.

Resolved, That while we abide steadfastly by the principles of the ordinance of 1787, we rest with hope and confidence upon the opinions of the eminent jurists and statesmen, representing all parties, who declare that slavery, as a mere local institution, cannot be transferred to territories now free, without that positive interference of Congress in its behalf, to which, as friends of universal freedom, we can never give our countenance or consent.

Resolved, That we would forever preserve from the contamination of this great national evil, the whole broad area of free soil upon our continent—reserving it as an asylum for the poor and oppressed of all lands, who may claim the protection of that flag, whose stripes are emblems of the righteous chastisement we have just inflicted upon an insolent foe, and whose stars have just sparkled above the glorious scenes of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo.

Resolved, That we rejoice that a war, justly waged, and full of events honorable to our country, though recently denounced by a numerous opposition as infamous and unjust, has become so universally popular, that those even who assailed it most bitterly, now regard a prominent participation in its glorious scenes as a sufficient passport to the highest civil station in the gift of the American people.

Resolved, That while we feel the deepest sentiments of respect for the brave commanders who participated in the honorable scenes of the late war, we disavow for ourselves that unjust and partial appreciation of their merits, which sprang into existence only when their dangers were over, and when a Presidential contest was at hand, and would accumulate upon the brow of one man all the laurels which our armies have won; but having sustained and encouraged the defenders of our rights, in the time of their fatigues and dangers, we would welcome the gallant survivors with thanks and honors to their homes, and again "tender our sympathy to the friends and relatives of the brave men who since the commencement of that war have fallen in defence of our country."

SAMUEL H. AYER,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

HARRY HIBBARD,

President of the Senate.

Approved Dec. 29, 1848.

JARED W. WILLIAMS, *Governor.*

A true copy—attest:

THOMAS P. TREADWELL,

Secretary of State.